

EGNA-13985

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13 January 1958

Chief of Base, Berlin

Chief of Base, Bonn

Info: Chief, EE

Operational/REDOX/DIZTAG/HINAY J/CALL

Dr. Jur. Emil Fridolin *HOFFMANN

DOB - 10 October 1911

POB - Unglinghausen, Kreis Siegen, Westphalia, Germany

EE
COS, Germany
MOB/Ln Div
CLS

Ref: EGNA-46632, 17 December 1957 (Went to EE/AH)

ACTION REQUIRED: Paragraph 2.

1. Attached is a CIC personality report of Subject dated 3 October 1949 and a BIV letter concerning Subject. The latter was forwarded to COS in EGNA-2637, 27 August 1953.
2. In view of the fact that HOFFMANN is a well known figure and has been the subject of much previous correspondence, including a trace request from the BIV (see SBONN-0517, 13 February 1953), we feel that our current request to the BIV, in order to be most effective, should not only refer to previous correspondence but should also indicate a reason for our current renewed interest. We would appreciate your recommendation as to what pretext may be used for the current trace request.

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Enclosures:
A/S; 6 cys.

Distribution:
2 - EOB, w/loy
2 - COS, w/loy
2 - EE, w/loy
2 - MOB, w/loy
2 - CLS, w/loy
2 - EE, w/loy

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 302B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

-CS COPY

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DIO 3 October 1949

SUBJECT: HOFFMANN, Emil Dr.

PERSONALITY REPORT

1. FULL NAME: Emil Dr. HOFFMANN
2. IDENTITY DOCUMENTS: British Zone Kennkarte and "Echo der Woche" press card issued on 22 Dec 1948 in Munich.
3. PRESENT ADDRESS OR POSSIBLE WHEREABOUTS: SUBJECT is presently residing with the SCHAD family at Auf der Koernerwiese 11, Frankfurt
4. FORMER ADDRESSES: Poststrasse 53, Berleburg
5. PERSONAL DATA: SEX: Male HEIGHT: unknown WEIGHT: 185 pounds EYES: Unknown HAIR: Blonde BUILD: Heavy MARITAL STATUS: On 1 Dec 1939 SUBJECT married one Dr. Helene RINK in Berlin. NATIONALITY: German CITIZENSHIP: German OCCUPATION: Journalist DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS: Unknown RELIGION: Unknown
6. POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS: Unknown
7. SPOUSE, FRIENDS, RELATIVES, ASSOCIATES: Dr. Helene RINK, wife, born 30 Sept 1914 in Weimar
8. PREVIOUS HISTORY: Little is known of his previous history
9. REFERENCE TO PREVIOUS REPORTS: No record
10. REASON FOR INVESTIGATION: Determine his present status...
11. RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION:
 - a. SUBJECT was born on 10 October 1911 in Ungling Hansen and from there moved to Berleburg where he lived with his wife until he arrived in Frankfurt on 2 March 1949. SUBJECT and wife registered with the 9th Police Precinct, Frankfurt, the early part of March 1949. (American Zone kennkarte is not required because SUBJECT has one from the British Zone)
 - Wohnungsamt received Reveal:*
b. In February 1949 the periodical "Wirtschaft Revue", located in Constance, Konradigasse 2, sent a letter to the Wohnungsamt requesting that they furnish SUBJECT an apartment in the Frankfurt area. It was further stated that HOFFMANN to be the chief editor of the Wirtschaft Revue and the Echo der Woche papers in Frankfurt.
 2. On 9 Feb 49, SUBJ notified the Wohnungsamt that the apartment in which he was residing must be vacated due to the fact that his landlady, Frau SCHAD, was exchanging this apartment for one in Stuttgart.

Further state that he employs a secretary and another assistant. HOFFMANN added that he wished to maintain his apartment in Berlin as he is an accredited journalist with the "Kultur- und Wirtschaft" (Office of Economic Administration).

The newspaper "Echo der Woche" is published in Munich, Son. 12 and has been selling for the past three years at a price of fifty pf. The editor in chief is one Harry SCHULZE-WILDE.

A neighborhood check conducted by source disclosed that HOFFMANN enjoys a close relationship with his landlady, Frau SCHAD. HOFFMANN's appearance in Frankfurt there has been much activity in the apartment occupied by him. Many foreigners and Americans have been observed coming and going regularly. SCHAD associated with American army officers and also with the former SS Obersturmführer, Frau PROBST, who formerly lived in this apt.

COMMENTS: It is possible that HOFFMANN may be an informant of British intelligence.....etc.

HOFFMANN, representing himself as advisor on economic questions to Prof. NOACK, has claimed on several occasions to have monthly meetings with SHUTE, Hicog Office of Intell....SHUTE denies dealing with HOFFMANN.

15 Aug 1950

HOFFMANN currently lives in Schoenenburg, Nymphenbergerstrasse 2.

On 4 August 1950, Prof. Ulrich NOACK (Nauheimer Kreis) had a visit to Wuppertal in the person of Dr. Emil Hoffmann, Berlin, who is, according to source, Noack's liaison man with Karlshorst. HOFFMANN claims to have free access to Karlshorst. During the Nauheimer Kreis Wittenhausen Conference in May 1950, HOFFMANN came out frequently in cooperation with the DDR and for appeasement of the Soviets.

19 Sept 1950

Unconfirmed rept state that a friend or associate of Prof. Noack, Dr. Emil Hoffmann, is engaged in organizing interzonal trade. He is reportedly in contact with the following firms:

1. Dr. F. Biederbild, Duisburg, Blumenstr. 68
2. Dr. Ernst Resselmann, Hamburg 1, An der Alster. 57
3. Hermann Schliecker, Duesseldorf
- Otto Wolf, Cologne

23-

15 Dec 1950

According to source, HOFFMANN is well-known in all of the Bonn industries that have any sort of connection with the DDR. In particular, he has contacts in the Ministry for all German Questions, Ministry of Economics. Well known to many Bonn journalists...one opinion among the press is that he is concerned chiefly with establishing connections with the DDR...believed to have close relations with the SPD and the National Front, formed mainly of

Translation

SI/4 d-2 569/52 gch.

14 July 1953

Memorandum for Mr. Hughes

Subject: Dr. Emil Hoffmann

Encl.: Photostat of an article

As requested, BIV submits the following extract from the report made by an agent:

A visit was paid to Fridolin, according to instruction, after previous notification by telephone. He had returned from a trip at noon; it was not possible to draw him out about it.

The Hotel Wiesenau in Bad Godesberg, where Fridolin is at present staying, is a little rural inn, located at a distance of approximately half an hour's walking to the north-west of Godesberg (highway). Fridolin's Volkswagen, license plate KB 07042, was parked in the garden.

The conversation with Fridolin took place in the garden of the inn between 1500 and 1800 hrs. During that time Fridolin had several long distance calls which could not be overheard. He expected to be called from Bremen. He also expected to be visited by business friends from Bremen on that same day. He is in a nervous condition, and seemed to be downcast.

Fridolin said that the Americans had put his very roots with their measures. The Americans have A, B, C, and D lists carrying all persons under suspicion or not agreeable, he said, and his name is on List D which means the highest degree of suspicion. He does not seem to see a possibility at the moment to improve his situation to any degree. He expects much from the fact that legal conditions are somewhat more reliable in the Federal Republic than in the Four-Sectors Town Berlin.

On that afternoon Fridolin felt particular tension because his wife Helma was supposed to leave Berlin-Schoeneberg, Nymphenburgerstr. 2, at 1600 hrs. for the Federal Republic. Fridolin intended to travel to Helmstedt, after his negotiations with his business friends from Bremen, in order to collect his wife.

Frau Hoffmann will also stay in Hotel Wiesenau at first, until the house "Am Reichenberg" in Hennof is ready which Fridolin has rented as of 1 July. He hopes to be able to move to another house in August which at present is still requisitioned by the British Occupation Power. Fridolin estimates the value of his household furnishings at DM 40,000. He says that the moving, including the insurances, will cost him 3000 DM. In this connection he mentioned that the lawyer, whom he consulted concerning the passport affair, had received 1500 DM so far while he has not yet done anything

effective. His Berlin dwelling has not been rented yet, so that he is compelled to continue to pay the rent of 300 or 350 DM.

Fridolin says that he has been living in Godesberg for two months already. Since all attempts failed to get an international pass in the usual manner, he contacted the French "Kommandantur" in Berlin (although it has no jurisdiction over his residential quarter (Schöneberg)). He obtained an international pass there which he has returned in the meantime to the French Kommandantur as promised. (He said that) he has always completed the police registration forms given him in Hotel Wiesbaden and elsewhere during his travels. Fridolin will report his move from Berlin-W to Godesberg to the police in the course of the next few days. He hopes that this will make his stay in the Federal Republic legal.

Fridolin complained about having to start all over with his business. He has been forced to run up debts, but it is not serious. He acts as an agent for a Swedish firm (reporter did not catch the name) and receives a fixed sum of DM 1900, so that every day that he was forced to stay in Berlin after the conclusion of the contract with the Swedish firm cost him DM 90. Besides, the firm of A. L. A. in Munich has made him its agent in West Germany, and a firm in Bremen (the name of which is Stueck, or Struack, or Strunk). The latter firm, he said, has export relations with China, and was as far able to dispatch two shiploads to China. He plans to deal in particular with the export to China and Indonesia.

Fridolin states that he has radically broken off all his connections with the DDR and with the Russians. He sees no possibility to assert himself against the pressure exercised by the Americans. The big business deal with Sweden which he had concluded by dint of great exertion (at a previous occasion he spoke of its value as amounting to 180 million DM) was torpedoed by the Americans so that only seven million could be effectuated so far. Allegedly, he has no connection any more with the firm "I. M. H. A. S. A. - Ritten".

Then Fridolin discussed to some length problems which are also the subject of the typescript "The Maze of the East-West Trade", photocast of which is attached.

That typescript is the draft of an article which Fridolin wrote in November 1952 for the periodical "Spiegel". He also showed me the article after it had been re-edited by the "Spiegel" editors. In an accompanying letter the editors asked for a photo of Fridolin which they intended to publish together with the article. They had stricken out a number of the names mentioned in the draft. The concluding reflections on pages 6 and 7 were put at the beginning, and were supplemented by a letter which Fridolin had addressed to Prof. E. U. E. R., head of the Berlin Government, on behalf of his passport affair. In that letter Fridolin explains his political life in a manner which makes him appear almost as a democratic resistance fighter. He establishes a comparison with Prof. Kauter's political career, who is said also to have been temporarily engaged in political activities in the Balkan countries.

In sketching his activities in the Balkan countries during the last

war, Fridolin hints at his good relations with Free Masonry which he has never mentioned before.

Fridolin, commenting on his "Spiegel" article, said to be convinced that Otto Schulze-Prohlinda (Gelsenkirchen-Buer) and Fritz Brannekampfer are double-agents working for the Russians as well as for the Americans. He terms it significant that Schulze-Prohlinda was not arrested in the "Vulkan" case, and that Brannekampfer is out of prison already. He assumes that Dr. Kroth is the one who denounced him to the DDR authorities and to the Russians. He presumes that it was Dr. Kroth who passed on to the BSD the so-called "Hoffmann Reports" for the American Intelligence Service. Fridolin asserts that there is a procedure pending against him with the BSD because of that, and it is another reason why he had to leave Berlin under all circumstances.

To his conversation with the US Intelligence Officer Mr. William L. Williams, photostat of which is attached, Fridolin adds what follows:

The conversation took place on 6 or 16 August 1952 in Frankfurt. Williams sometimes calls himself Samuel. He is never available in his office. Williams is usually accompanied by a "shadow" who sits at another table listening to conversations.

The article was never published in the "Spiegel" because the editors thought it "too hot" even after they had re-written it.

Since the "Action Vulkan" was started, the Spiegel editors regretted very much not having published the article in November or December. In regard to the "Action Vulkan" Fridolin allowed me to read an article he wrote which is entitled "East Trade on a Volcano", which was already in the possession of this office, and of which photostat is attached.

Remark:

No photostat of that article is attached because it is contained in your document 0 21-4-53 L K 460/420 25-4-53.

The article which is signed Olin-Fried (= Fridolin) has appeared in "Volkswirt" as a "letter from a reader" (Fridolin continued). He had, incidentally, given the Federal Ministry of Economics last year a detailed report on the background of the "Osttag", of "Deutsche Handelsgesellschaft West-Ost" etc.

Fridolin, when asked, stated that in his opinion the arrested persons Dr. Kroth, Hilde Weisenfels, Oettinger and Brannekampfer worked for an intelligence service. He thinks it is almost impossible in the case of most of the other arrestees.

Fridolin mentioned, like he did at a previous occasion that an investigating judge of the Landgericht in Frankfurt/Main is a close friend of his.

The well-known Dr. Werner Hager (he said) has in the meantime become the right-hand man of Generaldirektor Hanne of the I.G.

He complained about Waldemar W. e. l. e. n. with whom he is not possible to do business. Contrary to his promises he did not give him the Berlin agency for L. a. n. g. e. n. s. e. n. A. i. n. c. k. e. b. i. e. r, in which he has a prominent position. Also he (Fridolin) had at one time been the middle-man for a large-scale Swedish business deal, and was cheated out of his commission. Fridolin's opinion in regard to the developments in foreign policies is that the Federal Chancellor was right with his line. Fridolin stressed several times that he had committed no illegal or punishable offences.

By orders:

/s/ illegible

5-7